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NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

After consultations of the Security Council, held on 10 February 1993, the President of the Council made the following statement to the media on behalf of the members of the Council:

"The members of the Security Council have heard a report from the Chairman of the Committee established by resolution 724 (1991) about the detention of Romanian vessels on the Danube by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

"They have learned that the Minister of Transport of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) has threatened to detain more Romanian vessels if Romania does not allow the passage of Yugoslav vessels on the Danube. They have also learned that the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) has addressed a letter to the Chairman of the Committee established by resolution 724 (1991) informing him that the Romanian vessels would be released without further delay, which according to information provided by the Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations has not yet happened.

"The members of the Council recall their statement of 28 January 1993 (S/25190) about the responsibility of States to enforce mandatory Security Council resolutions, with particular reference to Yugoslav vessels attempting to violate those resolutions by way of the Danube. They commend the Romanian Government for the action it has since taken in this regard and reaffirm once again their full support for vigorous enforcement of the relevant resolutions.

"They also recall that under Article 103 of the Charter, the obligations of the Members of the United Nations under the Charter prevail over their obligations under any other international agreement.

"The members of the Council condemn any such retaliatory action and threats of such action by the FRY authorities. It is wholly unacceptable

for those authorities to take retaliatory measures in response to action by a State in fulfilment of its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations. They demand that the FRY authorities release forthwith the Romanian vessels they have unjustifiedly detained, and that they desist from further unlawful detentions."